

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 851

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served August 7, 1968

Application of Ira F. Gadd,)
d/b/a Columbia Sightseeing)
Company, for Temporary)
Authority.)

Application No. 515

Ira F. Gadd, d/b/a Columbia Sightseeing Company, has filed an application for temporary authority to "pick up tourists in the District of Columbia for sightseeing only." The applicant currently holds a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing him to engage in irregular route, special operations consisting of round trip or one way sightseeing tours from points in the City of Alexandria and Arlington County, Virginia to points in the District of Columbia and various points in Virginia, via the District of Columbia.

Notice of the application was sent to various carriers authorized by their certificates to originate sightseeing services in the District of Columbia. Protests to the application were filed by Washington Sightseeing Tours, Inc., Atwood's Transport Lines, Inc., White House Sightseeing Corporation, D.C. Transit System, Inc., A. B. & W. Transit Company and The Gray Line, Inc. These carriers disclaimed that there was an urgent and immediate need for applicant's service, because the disturbances in the city had drastically curtailed demands for their charter and sightseeing services and that they have and have had equipment and drivers available to handle all demands for sightseeing service. Without exception, they stand ready, willing and able to perform any and all sightseeing operations required by the public.

Section 4(d) of the Compact provides that temporary authority may issue only after, in our discretion, we find that there is an immediate and urgent need for the service and that there is no carrier service available in the territory.

The Commission is of the opinion and finds that there is a plethora of sightseeing services available from the carriers currently authorized by their certificate to provide this type of service. Accordingly, the application should be denied.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the application of Ira F. Gadd, d/b/a Columbia Sightseeing Company, for temporary authority be, and it is hereby, denied.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Russell W. Cunningham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

RUSSELL W. CUNNINGHAM
Acting Executive Director